REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on **November 19, 2004** the Examiner reviewed claims 1-24. Claims 1-4, 8-12, 16-20, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 (e) as being anticipated by Huang et al. (USPub 2003/0195950, hereinafter "Huang"). Claims 5-7, 13-15, and 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Huang and further in view of Microsoft (*Microsoft Management Console: Overview*, hereinafter "MMC").

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-4, 8-12, 16-20, and 24 were rejected as being anticipated by Huang. Specifically, claims 3 and 4 were rejected because the Examiner avers, inter alia, that Huang discloses a mechanism that is configured to provide security for the virtual server from unauthorized access by a second virtual server of the plurality of virtual servers.

Applicant respectfully point out that Huang teaches that a "*the web page from the site server initially includes a login window 410 that prompts the user for an identification and password,*" and that a "*secured transaction 412 is initiated with URL site server 230*" (see Huang, paragraph [0048], Fig. 4, mechanisms 410 and 412). Note that initiating a secured transaction between the user and a server only provides security for that particular transaction. In other words, initiating a secured transaction between a user and a virtual server does **not** protect the virtual server from unauthorized accesses by a second virtual server.

In contrast, the present invention is specifically directed towards providing "*security for the virtual server from unauthorized access by a second virtual server*" (see paragraph [0011]). There is nothing in Huang that suggests providing security for the virtual server from unauthorized access by a second virtual server.

Note that the mechanism for providing this security feature is not obvious. Specifically, the present invention provides this security feature because it allows

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an administrator of the common server platform to specify *"user privileges for virtual server 112"* (see paragraph [0025]).

Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 9, and 17 to clarify that (a) the server is a first virtual server of a plurality of virtual servers hosted on a common server platform, and (b) the common server platform contains a security feature that prevents unauthorized access of the server by a second virtual server of the plurality of virtual servers. These amendments find support in paragraphs [0010], [0011], [0024], and [0025]. Additionally, dependent claims 3-4, 11-12, 19-20 have been canceled without prejudice.

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 9, and 17 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 2 and 5-8, which depend upon claim 1, claims 10 and 13-16, which depend upon claim 9, and claims 18 and 21-24, which depend upon claim 17, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By _____
Richard A. Park
Registration No. 41,241

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A. Richard Park
PARK, VAUGHAN & FLEMING LLP
2820 Fifth Street
Davis, CA 95616
Tel: (530) 759-1661
FAX: (530) 759-1665